



ANNUAL REPORT

2021



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AND VISION**

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DO YOU KNOW WHAT OUR **DREAM** IS?

To build a community that values the **well-being** of all **living things**.

Since its inception in 1975, the Nosara Civic Association has been at the heart of the Nosara community: promoting planning, civic activism, and conservation.



MISSION

To honor and promote a sustainable future
for the Nosara area.

VISION

A model community that values the wellbeing
of all living beings

LETTER FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Try to think back to your very first visit to Nosara, Guiones or Pelada. Please, take a deep breath, and another of this rich, pollutant cleansing jungle air and think about what first drew you to this place.

It may have been the unspoilt beaches with no visible buildings, it may have been the immense biodiversity, the flowering trees, plants and abundance of colorful animals. The monkeys? A love for turtles? Or maybe it just seems like a natural outpost with essential water and electricity so different and slower paced than home.

Whatever comes to mind, **it has something to do with the Nosara Civic Association.**

Now let's think about what Nosara is like today. We are already coming out of the pandemic and Nosara continues to grow very quickly. Many people want to make Nosara their home, and every year thousands more want to come and see it, attracted by its natural beauty and the activities that take place here. The hotels are at full capacity and there are many constructions waiting for the water charters to obtain their permits, and that gives us an idea of the many changes that we will see in the next two years. On the other hand, public institutions and services are only taking small steps, showing us that the gap between private and public investment will continue to grow at an alarming rate.



At the Nosara Civic Association, we are aware of this reality and it reminds us why planning is essential to minimize the negative impacts it can have on our community and our natural resources. In addition, planning gives us the opportunity to recover or improve our environment.

Since 2018 we have been working together with the Municipality of Nicoya in the development of the Regulatory Plan. This is work on many fronts and it will take several years to make it a reality. Therefore, the importance of protecting the refuge, the forests and our aquifers, while the Regulatory Plan is being carried out and applied. As we know, the Municipal Construction Regulations were challenged in court and it is not known when we will have a resolution.

We all have our share of responsibility and we must take immediate action. It is not worth alluding to the lack of a regulatory plan or regulations for construction, to justify actions that, although they may be legal, threaten the essence of Nosara and its inhabitants. Precisely what drew us here in the first place!

That is why our role in the community is becoming more and more important. **Together we can create a movement where we stand out as a model community that values the well-being of all living things.**

Today, thanks to the NCA's visionary effort since 1975, Nosara is different from many coastal destinations in Costa Rica, but we must continue working together so as not to lose the vision of a community that coexists with the Ostional National Wildlife Refuge and who makes decisions based on nature.

There are many more matters over which we also have control. With the help of our members and other actors, we have been able to prioritize our work, which we carry out based on five axes: Mobility, Biodiversity Conservation, Scientific Research, Citizen Empowerment and Government Support.

We are very grateful and excited for the support received from you, from the participation in the first NCA trail race, the work sessions in Calle Modelo, the creation of the Electric Route, to the efforts to raise funds to continue doing our job.

Finally, I would like to thank Francisco, Roberto, Juan Ignacio, Rafa and Warner for their excellent work and unconditional support.

We have a great challenge as an Association and as individuals. We need to continue working together, because:

The Magic of Nosara **is No Accident.**

WHAT WE DO

OUR WORK IS FOCUSED ON THESE PROGRAMS



1. MOBILITY



2. BIODIVERSITY
CONSERVATION



3. SCIENTIFIC
RESEARCH



4. CITIZEN
EMPOWERMENT



5. GOVERNMENT
SUPPORT

MOBILITY

The NCA promotes alternative mobility options in Nosara and its surroundings, with the intention of achieving a combination of environmental sustainability and **improving the quality of life of residents and visitors** to the area.





RESULTS:

CALLE MODELO

The first phase of the project was achieved, an initiative that articulated the Municipality of Nicoya, Asada, ICE and the residents of the area, to intervene the street of the main entrance of Guiones. Thanks to the facilitation of the architectural firm Gensler, the conceptualization of the project has already been achieved.

ELECTRIC ROUTE

A system of charging points for electric vehicles was developed. Thanks to the support of Rutas Eléctricas Costa Rica, ASOMOVE and Nosara.com, we managed to install 16 charging points in our community. We are the third community in Costa Rica that has an electric route.

TRAILS

We opened a new trail that connects Guiones and Pelada and built a new bridge over the stream, this trail is named after Bobbi Johnson. Two groups of Del Mar Academy volunteers have been hard at work on the NCA trails starting at the tennis courts and adding ballast so they can be used year round. Eight signs have been installed at the trailheads with the official NCA map .

A background image of a dense green forest with a brown monkey hanging from a tree branch. The monkey is positioned on the left side of the frame, clinging to a light-colored tree branch. The forest is filled with various shades of green leaves and branches, creating a lush, natural setting. A black rectangular banner is overlaid on the right side of the image, containing the title text.

BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION

Nosara is defined by the abundance of nature and forests. Our community strives to **keep our city as green as possible.** The efforts of the NCA are invaluable to this process.

RESULTS:



Technical closure : Periodic monitoring of groundwater in the three monitoring wells continued, the company WPP was contracted for the design of the construction plans and the paperwork before the Ministry of Health, the Municipality of Nicoya and the College of Engineers and Architects. The necessary permits were obtained to move forward with the construction stage and a detailed budget was made for the cost of the work, which amounts to nearly \$350,000.

OTHERS:

- All the parklands located in Guiones and Pelada were delimited and labeled.
- The land where two water wells are located was segregated and donated to the ASADA Playas de Nosara in compliance with what was agreed by the 2021 general assembly.
- The NCA installed 9 signs on properties along Route 160 to promote the reduction of vehicle speeds at wildlife crossings.

A man wearing an orange short-sleeved button-down shirt, blue jeans, black rubber boots, and a blue baseball cap with an orange stripe is wading through a shallow, rocky river. He is holding a long, thin white pole or measuring device. The background shows a rocky riverbank with some sparse vegetation.

SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH

We continue to work on research projects to better understand the environment surrounding the area and thus help local organizations and authorities to make better decisions.

RESULTS:

- A detailed report was made in conjunction with the WCA, which managed to record more than 1,000 different species through 4,000 fauna reports in Nosara, evidencing the importance of the NCA's forests.
- The focal management elements for the Association's parklands were defined as part of the process of preparing the General Management Plan for the farms: Surface water bodies, Tropical Humid Forest and Association Trails.
- Progress was made in the numerical modeling of the aquifers, an investigation that will help us understand the dynamics of the aquifers in the area.



CITIZEN **EMPOWERMENT**



We want to raise the voice of the residents of the community and create proposals that are born from our own population. At the same time, we want to defend Nosara's identity.



RESULTS:

INNOVATION LAB

We brought together 16 Tico youth and adults, community opinion leaders, to jointly build how we see the Nosara of the future. As a result, several projects were achieved that we included in our 2022 work plan.

NOSARA SOMOS TODOS RACE

We held the first annual NCA Trail Run where over 100 people participated and we managed to raise about \$5k.

CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

This 2021 we support the Municipality of Nicoya and the Nosara Market Fair in celebrating the day of the Annexation of the Party of Nicoya and in celebrating the independence of Costa Rica.

GOVERNMENT SUPPORT

We advise the Municipality of Nicoya and other public institutions on specific environmental issues. We act as a bridge between the community and the local and national government.



RESULTS:

- Thanks to the technical support of the NCA, the Regulatory Plan commission of the Municipality of Nicoya continues to work on the diagnostic phase and during 2021 the company Ecoplan was contracted to develop the Environmental Fragility indices for the entire canton of Nicoya.
- The NCA actively participated in all the CIMACO sessions and in the Management Plan commission and the Legal Commission. With our support, SINAC passed the stage of creating the PGM and all the environmental requirements of SETENA as established in Law 9348 of the Ostional Refuge.
- The NCA was constituted as a supporter of the Municipality in the defense of the regulations for the constructions in the buffer zone of the Ostional Refuge and actively coordinated the efforts for the defense of the regulations together with SINAC and the Municipality of Nicoya.
- The NCA provided technical and legal support to the legal commission of the RNVSO to send a document of conclusions to the constitutional chamber supporting the technical and legal validity of the application of the PGM in defense of the law before the appeal of unconstitutionality filed against the uses established in law 9348.





OUR TEAM



MEET OUR BOARD



Luis Pardo
President



Kuki Araya
Vice President



Keri Dawn Solner
Secretary



Nice Alterman
Treasure



Bart De Graaf
Vocal 1



Nicole Quesada
Vocal 2



Fritz Elmendorf
Vocal 3



Andrés González
Fiscal

MEET OUR STAFF



Francisco Jiménez
Programs Director



Roberto Acuña
Comunications



Juan Chaves
Administrator



Rafael Díaz
Parkland Operator

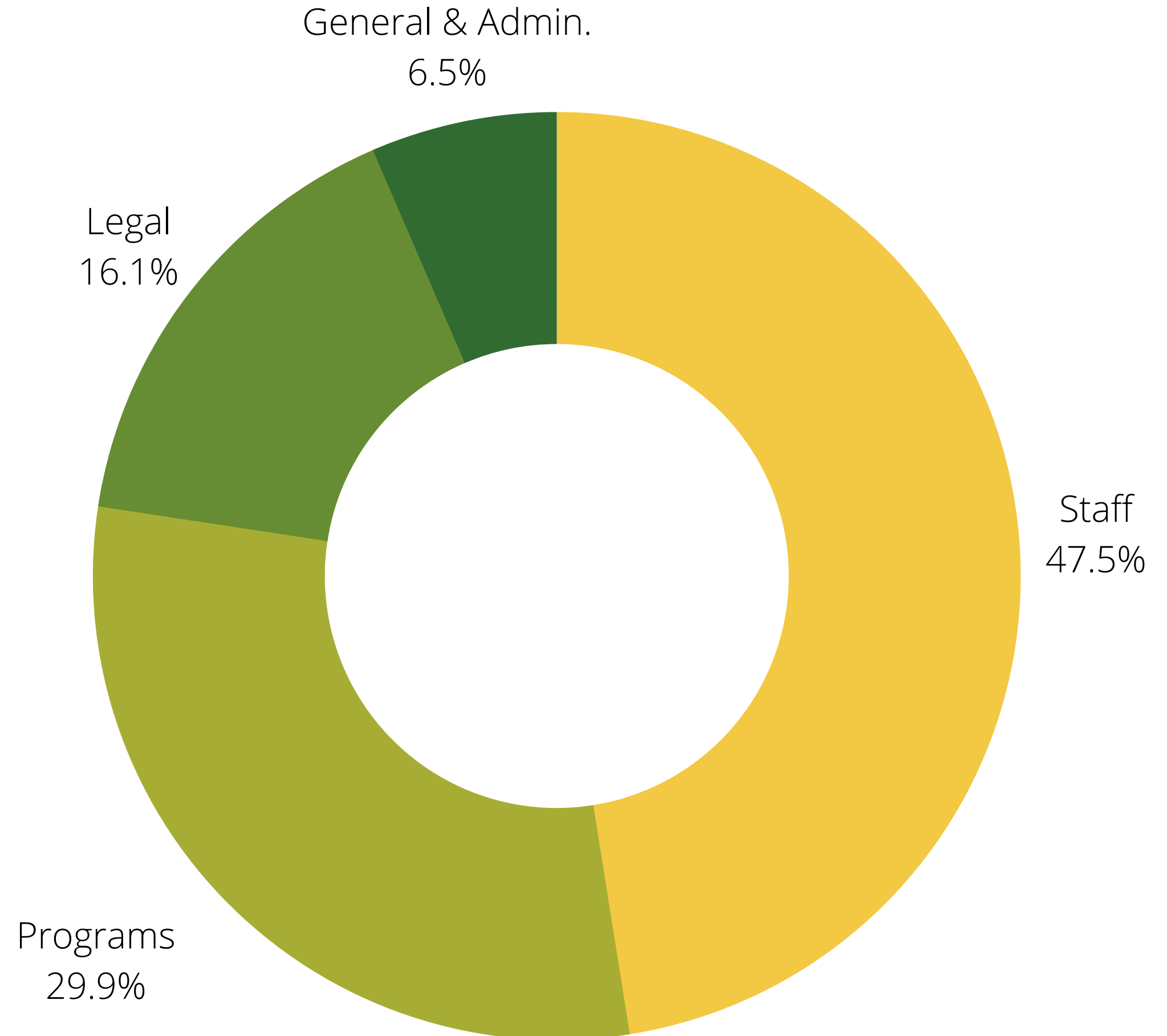


Boanerges Montiel
Parkland Operator

FINANCIALS

EXECUTED BUDGET 2021

This budget represents the operational and program costs necessary **to execute the work** of the NCA during 2021.





The Magic of Nosara is No Accident.
Be part of the change.
Support the Nosara Civic Association!